US Army Corps
of Engineers
Engineer Research and
Development Center

Fact Sheet

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Raster Product Format (RPF) Software

Description and Background: The National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA) is now producing two standard products, Controlled-Image Base (CIB) and Compressed ARC Digitized Raster Graphics (CADRG), in RPF. The RPF software developed by, and available from, the U.S. Army Topographic Engineering Center can be used to extract and display RPF data. The RPF software comes in two parts: an applications program with a Graphical User Interface (GUI) called Raster Map, and a library of reusable functions in ANSI C. Two of these functions can be executed from a command line interface. Raster Map reads RPF data from a CD-ROM, displays it on the screen and writes the data to disk. The software runs on DOS, Windows 3.1, Windows NT, Sun/Solaris, SGI/IRIX and HP/HP-UX.

Key Capabilities: The library functions are highly reusable software modules. The code is modular, well written and documented using reuse guidelines developed by the Army Reuse Center, where this software resides.
Raster Map:

- browses an RPF volume

- reads a frame file of RPF data from a CD-ROM

- reads an area from CD-ROM by coordinates

- extracts, decompresses, and down-samples RPF Overview, Legend, and Frame File Image sets

- displays RPF Overview, Legend and Frame File Image sets on screen

- pans and zooms

- switches map scale

- displays geographic coordinates

- points and drags to mark a rectangle for extraction to disk

Library Functions:

- performs the first four raster map functions

- extracts the RPF Table of Contents and frame file metadata

- provides mono or stereo coverage of a specified area

- extracts to PNM format or to a pixel bitmap

- associates RPF Legend files with corresponding RPF frame files

- supports use of RPF External Colortable Files

Current Status: The Geospatial Information Division released the Unix version of the RPF software in 1995, and the Windows version in 1996. An upgrade of the RPF software was released May 1997.

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